


Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**accord** *n.* A feeling of agreement or harmony; a formal agreement.  
*a kord'* The members of the jury were in **accord** when the vote was taken.

**affirm** *v.* To declare positively.  
*a firm'* My brother will **affirm** that the signature is mine.

 *Affirm for your partner how important the study of vocabulary is.*

**bequeath** *v.* 1. To pass on to others.  
*be kweth'* Through her example of hard work, our mother has **bequeathed** to all her children an outstanding work ethic.

2. To leave to another in one's will.  
This necklace was **bequeathed** to me by my grandmother.

**bequest** *n.* (be kwest') Something bequeathed; a legacy.  
The will contains a **bequest** of a thousand dollars to a friendly neighbor.

**citadel** *n.* A fortress on a hill; a stronghold.  
*si' ta del* The old section of Quebec City is surrounded by walls and dominated by a **citadel**.

**confer** *v.* 1. To grant or bestow.  
*kan fer'* The school board president **conferred** diplomas upon all the high school graduates.


2. To consult.  
The surgeon **conferred** with her colleague before deciding not to operate on the patient.

 *Confer with your partner about the easiest way to eat an orange.*


**coup** *n.* 1. A successful action that brings about a striking change.  
*koo'* Developing the new arts program was a **coup** for the young principal.

2. The overthrow of a government, especially by a group that has military or political power.  
Fidel Castro's 1959 **coup** brought communism to the island nation of Cuba.

**dignitary** *n.* A person who holds a high rank or position of honor.  
*dig ni teri'* **Dignitaries** from the United Nations attended the White House dinner.


 *Discuss with your partner what sorts of things dignitaries might talk about at a White House dinner.*

**embroil** *v.* To involve in an argument or conflict.  
*em broil'* The two countries were **embroiled** in a bitter dispute over where the border between them lay.

 *Talk to your partner about what you can do if you become embroiled in an argument with a friend.*


**epoch** *n.* An extended period of time marked by a series of related events.  
*ep' ak* The **epoch** known as the Cold War, a period of hostility without military conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, began around 1945 and ended in 1991.

**impeccable** *adj.* Free from fault or flaw; perfect.  
*im pek' a bal* The ballet dancer's **impeccable** execution of a midair turn elicited cries of "Bravo!" from the audience.

 *Tell your partner what you think is more important and why: an impeccable fashion sense or impeccable taste in music.*

**Institute** *v.* To establish, organize, or put into effect; to begin.  
*in sta too'* The new principal **instituted** important changes in class schedules and lunch times.


*n.* An organization set up to promote education or a particular cause.  
Scholars at the **Institute** for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, conduct research in mathematics, physics, and historical and social sciences.

 *Chat with your partner about what changes to your country you would institute if given the chance.*

**patriarch** *n.* The male founder or ruler, such as of a family or tribe.  
*pa' tri' ark* The Bedouins, nomadic desert tribes of Northern Africa, form extended families headed by **patriarchs**.

**rapport** *n.* A feeling of harmonious connection between people or groups of people.  
*ra por'* Successful speakers quickly establish a **rapport** with the audience.

**renounce** *v.* To give up a right to, abandon; reject.  
*re noun'* We **renounced** eating meat when we became vegetarians.

 *Share with your partner something you would not want to renounce.*

**renunciation** *n.* (re nun se' shan) The act of renouncing.  
Acceptance into the animal-rights group meant the **renunciation** of wearing leather and fur clothing.

**rhetoric** 4.1 The hand of language skillful  
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# 17A

## Figuring Word Meanings

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence. Write the letter of your answer in the blank.

- (a) something that is handed down. (c) A bequest is  
 (b) An accord is (d) a change of direction.
- (a) A patriarch is (c) a person with great strength.  
 (b) A dignitary is (d) the male leader of a tribe.
- (a) a type of car. (c) A coup is  
 (b) a formal agreement. (d) An accord is
- (a) one who speaks eloquently. (c) A dignitary is  
 (b) one who holds a position of honor. (d) A citadel is
- (a) Rhetoric is (c) an opportunity to make a difference.  
 (b) Rapport is (d) skill in the use of language.

accord
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citadel
confer
coup
dignitary
embroid
epoch
impeccable
institute
patriarch
rapport
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rhetoric

- (a) a fortress. (c) An institute is  
 (b) a beginning. (d) A citadel is

- (a) a poem that relates a story. (c) A coup is  
 (b) an action that brings about a striking change (d) An epoch is

- (a) To renounce an award is to (c) grant it.  
 (b) To confer an award is to (d) accept it.

- (a) something left to a person in a will. (c) An epoch is  
 (b) an organization to promote a particular cause. (d) An institute is

- (a) to declare it to be true. (c) To renounce something is  
 (b) To affirm something is (d) to go in search of it.

## Just the Right Word

Replace each phrase in bold with a single word (or form of the word) from the word list.

1. The twins have a good **feeling of emotional connection** with each other.
2. Candidates use **elaborate and ostentatious** language that attracts voters.
3. Before they knew what was happening, there was a(n) **seizure of government** that resulted in tyranny.
4. My grandmother put in her will that she wished to leave this gold locket to me.
5. The judges at the figure-skating competition had a discussion at great length before announcing the winner.
6. In 1936, King Edward VIII of England **gave up his right** to the throne in order to marry a divorced American, Mrs. Wallis Simpson.
7. The United States did not officially become **caught up in the conflict** in World War II until after the Japanese attack on the Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor in 1941.
8. The principal **set into motion** a policy that would discourage unnecessary absences at the high school.
9. Her behavior was **free of any fault** while she was with me.
10. With the death of Stalin, leader of the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) from 1924 to 1953, came the end of a(n) **period of time marked by a series of related events** in Russian history.

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## Applying Meanings

Circle the letter or letters next to each correct answer. There may be more than one correct answer.

1. Which of the following might be **bequeathed**?
  - (a) a sum of money
  - (b) a work of art
  - (c) a piece of property
  - (d) a belief in democracy
2. Which of the following can be **conferred**?
  - (a) a gift
  - (b) a love of freedom
  - (c) one's innocence
  - (d) a title
3. Which of the following would be in **accord**?
  - (a) parties to an agreement
  - (b) rivals
  - (c) advocates for opposing views
  - (d) signers of a declaration
4. Which of the following is an **institute**?
  - (a) Academy of Arts
  - (b) Boston City Hall
  - (c) Depot Restaurant
  - (d) American Civil Liberties Union
5. Which of the following might indicate **rapport** between two people?
  - (a) an affable exchange of views
  - (b) a rebuke of one by the other
  - (c) turmoil in their relationship
  - (d) constant wrangling between them
6. Which of the following occupations requires skill in **rhetoric**?
  - (a) lawyer
  - (b) dentist
  - (c) computer engineer
  - (d) football coach
7. Which of the following is an **epoch**?
  - (a) the year 2000
  - (b) the Renaissance
  - (c) the Middle Ages
  - (d) one's high school years
8. Which of the following is a **dignitary**?
  - (a) the president of a college
  - (b) the head of a conspiracy
  - (c) the president of a country
  - (d) the head of a household

## Word Study Word Parts

Complete each sentence using a prefix or root from the Latin words.

Prefixes	Latin Words
<i>ad-</i> (to)	<i>cessare</i> (to cease)
<i>con-</i> (with)	<i>levis</i> (light)
<i>dis-</i> (apart)	<i>annus</i> (year)
<i>in-</i> (not)	<i>onuma</i> (name)
<i>in-</i> (not)	<i>macula</i> (stain)
<i>syn-</i> (together)	<i>secare</i> (to cut)
	<i>ardere</i> (to burn)
	<i>mille</i> (thousand)
	<i>tangere</i> (to touch)
	<i>lumen</i> (light)
	<i>stagnum</i> (swamp)

- The prefix *ad-* combines with the root from *levis* to form the word \_\_\_\_\_, "to make lighter or less burdensome."
- Roots from the Latin word *mille* and *annus* combine to form \_\_\_\_\_, "a period of a thousand years."
- The prefix *con-* combines with the root from *tangere* to form \_\_\_\_\_, "easily passed from person to person."
- The prefix *in-* combines with the root from *cessare* to form \_\_\_\_\_, "going on without ceasing."
- The prefix *in-* combines with the root from *macula* to form \_\_\_\_\_, "without a stain; spotless."
- The prefix *syn-* combines with the root from *onuma* to form \_\_\_\_\_, "closely related; linked together."
- The word \_\_\_\_\_ means "burning with enthusiasm" and comes from the Latin *ardere*.
- The word \_\_\_\_\_ means "giving off light" and comes from the Latin *lumen*.
- The prefix *dis-* combines with the root from *secare* to form \_\_\_\_\_, "to cut into in order to study."
- The word \_\_\_\_\_ means "not changing" and comes from the Latin *stagnum*.

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## Vocabulary in Context

Read the passage.

## The Country Without an Army



At the close of the ceremony honoring him, the dark-haired, impeccably dressed forty-six-year-old passed among the many dignitaries gathered at San José's Metropolitan Cathedral. He stopped before a frail, elderly man, who had tears of joy streaming down his cheeks, and embraced him. On this occasion, Costa Ricans had gathered to celebrate their president, Oscar Arias Sánchez. Arias was about to leave for Oslo to receive the 1987 Nobel Prize for Peace.

This award was to be conferred upon Arias because he was the main architect of an accord known as "The Arias Peace Plan." It was signed that year by representatives from Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras. It affirmed the intentions of these countries to make a strong effort to end the armed conflict that had embroiled parts of Central America for decades. Arias was uniquely qualified to initiate this effort; for almost forty years, his country had enjoyed both domestic tranquility and a democratic political system. Both of these blessings had been bequeathed to Costa Rica by its former president José Figueres Ferrer, the man Arias now embraced.

In the early 1940s, Figueres was a successful but largely unknown coffee planter. He was outraged by the country's corrupt government. Like those that had preceded it, the government rigged elections; it shot or jailed political opponents; it allowed the army to brutalize the population into abject submission. In 1942, Figueres gave a radio speech attacking the country's president. For this act, he was sent into exile. But his courageous defiance made him a national hero. Six years later, he led an armed coup that toppled the government.

The year 1948 marked the beginning of a new epoch in Costa Rican history. In May of that year, Figueres formed a new government. Within months, his government had transformed Costa Rica. Among the reforms he instituted were full voting rights for women, low-cost health care, and free and open elections. But his most amazing accomplishment was the renunciation of war. This was not mere rhetoric. Figueres followed up his declaration by abolishing Costa Rica's army. Taking a sledgehammer, he struck the symbolic blow that began the destruction of the army's headquarters. As head of the National Liberation Party, which he formed, Figueres was three

times elected president of his country. Each reelection further indicated the strong rapport that existed between the citizens and this leader.

Now, in 1987, the aged Costa Rican patriarch stood on the steps of the Metropolitan Cathedral with Oscar Arias Sánchez. The younger man, he hoped, would carry their dream of peace beyond the nation's frontiers. The former and current presidents acknowledged the cheers of the people as they made their way on foot, and without need of protection, to the National Museum of Culture. This museum was once the site of the citadel, headquarters for the army. Observing the two leaders, an onlooker commented, "It was as though George Washington had appeared at the inauguration of John F. Kennedy."

Oscar Arias Sánchez served as president until 1990 and was reelected to a second term, which he served from 2006 until 2010. Between terms as president, he used his Nobel Prize money to establish the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress.

► Answer each of the following questions with a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson's word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. What ended for Costa Rica in 1948?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the Costa Rican people affirm their respect for Figueres and Arias?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Was there anything unseemly about Figueres's record as president of Costa Rica? Explain.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the meaning of rhetoric as it is used in the passage?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In what way can José Figueres be compared to George Washington?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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6. How has Costa Rica gotten along with its neighbors in recent decades?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Give evidence of the rapport between Figueres and the people of Costa Rica.  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Why is the Arias Peace Plan described as an accord?  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. Name some of Figueres's bequests to Costa Rica.  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. How did Figueres come to power in Costa Rica?  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. What is the meaning of conferred as it is used in the passage?  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Which dignitaries signed the Arias Peace Plan?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. What is the name of the institute that celebrates Costa Rican culture?  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. What did the signers of the Arias Peace Plan pledge to renounce?  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Why would the army have had its headquarters in a citadel?  
\_\_\_\_\_